



**Issue No. 01-00**

**(a semi-monthly report)**

**Released: January 3, 2000**

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

*Hog Inventory  
US Egg Production  
Agricultural Prices*

*US Cattle on Feed  
Livestock Slaughter  
US Cold Storage*

## Hog Inventory

**UTAH:** Inventory of all hogs and pigs was estimated at 520,000 head as of December 1, 1999, a new record high inventory for Utah. The inventory was 36.8 percent above the previous record high of 1998.

The 1999 breeding hog inventory of 70,000 head was up 16.7 percent from last year. The market hog inventory, at 450,000 head, was 40.6 percent more than on December 1, 1998.

The 1999 pig crop totaled 836,000 head, 27.2 percent above 1998. The number of sows farrowing during the December 1, 1998 - November 30, 1999 period was 97,000 head, 21,500 more than the previous year. The average litter size of 8.62 pigs was down from last year's average of 8.70. In 1999, Utah had 500 hog operations (operations with one or more hogs), the same as 1998.

**UNITED STATES:** Inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 1999, was 59.4 million head. This was 4 percent below December 1998, and 2 percent below September 1, 1999.

Breeding inventory, at 6.24 million head, was down 7 percent from December 1, 1998, and down 1 percent from September 1, 1999. Market hog inventory, at 53.2 million head, was 4 percent below last year, and 2 percent below last quarter.

The September-November 1999 U.S. pig crop, at 25.2 million head, was 3 percent less than 1998, and 1 percent less than 1997. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.87 million head, 4 percent below last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 46 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs per litter rose to an average of 8.78 pigs saved per litter for the September-November period, compared to 8.66 pigs last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.40 for operations

with 1-99 hogs to 8.90 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

## U.S. Egg Production

U.S. egg production totaled 7.02 billion during November 1999, up 4 percent from the 6.72 billion produced in 1998. Production included 5.96 billion table eggs and 1.06 billion hatching eggs, of which 997 million were broiler-type and 61.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during November 1999 averaged 328 million, up 3 percent from the total average number of layers during November 1998. November egg production per 100 layers was 2,139 eggs, up 1 percent from 2,109 eggs in November 1998.

All layers in the U.S. on December 1, 1999, totaled 329 million, up 3 percent from a year ago. The 329 million layers consisted of 270 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 55.8 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.73 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on December 1, 1999, averaged 71.6 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from the 70.8 a year ago.

### Layers & Eggs: Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced by Type, United States, November, 1998-99

Item	1998 <sup>1/</sup>	1999 <sup>2/</sup>	1999 as % of 1998
<b>Layers during November (Thousand)</b>			
All Layers	318,797	328,086	103
Table Egg Type	261,472	269,843	103
Hatching Egg Type	57,325	58,243	102
<b>Eggs per 100 Layers during November (Number)</b>			
All Layers	2,109	2,139	101
Table Egg Type	2,178	2,209	101
Hatching Egg Type	1,793	1,817	101
<b>Eggs produced during November (Million)</b>			
All Layers	6,723	7,018	104
Table Egg Type	5,695	5,960	105
Hatching Egg Type	1,028	1,058	103

<sup>1/</sup> Revised. <sup>2/</sup> Preliminary

# Agricultural Prices

**UTAH:** Prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers during mid-December were down for baled alfalfa hay, barley, and milk, and unchanged for other hay.

The Utah mid-December all milk price was \$13.60 per cwt, down 20 cents from the previous month and down \$4.00 from December 1998. Barley, at \$1.83 per bushel, was down four cents from the previous month's price and the same as December 1998. Baled alfalfa hay was \$75.00 per ton, down \$2.00 from last month and the same as December 1998. Other hay, at \$35.00 per ton, was unchanged from last month but \$16.00 lower than December 1998.

The lamb price for November 1999 was \$79.00 per cwt, up \$9.00 from October, and up \$20.00 from November of last year. The November 1999 sheep price at \$25.00, was \$5.00 more than October, up \$4.00 from November of last year.

**UNITED STATES:** The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in December was 91 based on 1990-92=100, down 2 points (2.2 percent) from the November index. Lower prices for milk, soybeans, wheat, and oranges more than offset price increases for lettuce, hogs, calves, and corn. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affects the overall index. Lower seasonal marketings of cattle, grapes, soybeans, and corn more than offset the relatively higher marketings of tobacco, wheat, milk, and broilers. These marketing changes account for about one-half point of the December index decrease.

Compared with December 1998, the All Farm Products Index was 7 points (7.1 percent) lower. Price decreases from December 1998 for milk, cotton, soybeans, and corn more than offset price increases for hogs, cattle, lettuce, and apples.

## Average Prices Received by Farmers

Commodity	Unit	Utah			United States		
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
		Dec 1998	Nov 1999	Dec 1999 <u>1/</u>	Dec 1998	Nov 1999	Dec 1999 <u>1/</u>
Livestock & Products							
Lambs	Dol/Cwt	65.00	79.00	<u>2/</u>	64.70	76.30	<u>2/</u>
Sheep	Dol/Cwt	25.00	25.00	<u>2/</u>	30.10	30.20	<u>2/</u>
Milk, All <u>3/</u>	Dol/Cwt	17.60	13.80	13.60	18.00	14.30	12.40
(Fat test)	Percent	3.80	3.72	3.77	3.79	3.78	3.79
Fluid Grade <u>4/</u>	Dol/Cwt	17.70	14.00	<u>2/</u>	18.10	14.40	12.40
(Fat test)	Percent	3.80	3.72	<u>2/</u>	3.78	3.77	3.79
Mfg Grade	Dol/Cwt	17.30	10.60	<u>2/</u>	17.40	11.00	10.70
(Fat test)	Percent	3.84	3.77	<u>2/</u>	3.93	3.93	3.92
Crops							
Barley	Dol/Bu	1.83	1.87	1.83	2.03	2.15	2.14
Alfalfa Hay, Baled <u>5/</u>	Dol/Ton	75.00	77.00	75.00	79.70	77.30	73.20
Other Hay, Baled <u>5/</u>	Dol/Ton	51.00	35.00	35.00	71.10	64.80	65.90

<sup>1/</sup> Prices refer to sales occurring about the 15th of the month, except for milk. Prices for milk are an estimate for the full month. <sup>2/</sup> December data will be published next month. <sup>3/</sup> Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies. <sup>4/</sup> Includes milk diverted to manufacturing. <sup>5/</sup> Mid-month prices.

## U.S. Cattle on Feed

**Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.75 million head on December 1, 1999. The inventory was 6 percent above December 1, 1998 and 3 percent above December 1, 1997. **Placements** in feedlots during November totaled 2.17 million, 5 percent above 1998 but 2 percent below 1997. Net placements were 2.09 million. During

November, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 766,000, 600-699 pounds were 657,000, 700-799 pounds were 416,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 331,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during November totaled 1.80 million, 5 percent above 1998 and 7 percent above 1997. **Other disappearance** totaled 83,000 during November, 6 percent above 1998 but 2 percent below 1997.

### Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, United States, December 1, 1997-99

Item	Number			1999 as Percent of	
	1997	1998	1999	1997	1998
	1,000 Head			Percent	
On Feed Nov 1 <sup>1/</sup>	10,988	10,784	11,455	104	106
Placed on Feed during Nov	2,207	2,065	2,170	98	105
Fed Cattle Marketed during Nov	1,674	1,708	1,796	107	105
Other Disappearance during Nov <sup>2/</sup>	85	78	83	98	106
On Feed Dec 1 <sup>1/</sup>	11,436	11,063	11,746	103	106

<sup>1/</sup> Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. <sup>2/</sup> Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

## Livestock Slaughter

**UTAH:** Commercial red meat production totaled 41.0 million pounds in November 1999, up 7.6 percent from November 1998 but down 1.2 percent from October 1999.

**UNITED STATES: Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 3.89 billion pounds in November, up 4 percent from the previous record high for November set in 1995 and up 5 percent from the 3.72 billion pounds produced in November 1998. **Beef production**, at 2.15 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous record high for November set in 1995 and 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.94 million head, up 6 percent from 1998. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from the previous year, at 1,216 pounds. **Veal production**

totalled 19 million pounds, 2 percent below the previous record low for November set a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 104 thousand head, down 7 percent from November 1998. The average live weight was 15 pounds above last year, at 300 pounds. **Pork production** totaled 1.71 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous record high for November set last year. Hog kill totaled 8.90 million head, 1 percent above 1998. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 262 pounds. **Lamb and mutton production**, at 22 million pounds, was up 12 percent from November 1998. Sheep slaughter totaled 329 thousand head, 10 percent above last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, up 2 pounds from November a year ago.





## U.S. Cold Storage Highlights

**Frozen food stocks** in refrigerated warehouses on November 30, 1999 were greater than year earlier levels for chicken. November 1999 stocks of chicken, at 789 million pounds, broke the previous record November high of 663 million pounds set in 1998. Cooler stocks of peanuts were also higher than a year earlier. **Total red meat supplies** in freezers were down 6 percent from October 1999 and 8 percent below November 1998. Frozen pork stocks were 6 percent below last month and 7 percent below last year. Stocks of pork bellies increased 14 percent from last month, but were 38 percent below the November 1998 stocks. **Total frozen poultry supplies** were down 21 percent from last month, but were 7 percent above last year's level. Total stocks of chicken were down 4 percent from last month, but were 19 percent above November 1998. Total pounds of turkey in freezers decreased 50 percent from last month and were 20 percent below last year. **Public cooler occupancy** was at 50 percent of capacity, down 4 points from last year. Public freezer occupancy at 64 percent was 5 percentage points below last year.

## Stocks in Cold Storage, United States

Commodity	Nov 30, 1998	Oct 31, 1999	Nov 30, 1999
1,000 Pounds			
<b>Total Frozen</b>			
Eggs . . . . .	9,296	8,970	8,636
Chickens . . . . .	663,309	820,499	788,595
Turkeys . . . . .	310,363	494,496	249,475
Cherries, Tart			
RSP . . . . .	133,236	136,220	125,985
Juice . . . . .	3,303	2,336	2,254
Cherries, Sweet . .	15,167	13,988	13,104
Potatoes . . . . .	1,290,480	1,307,831	1,258,464
Beef . . . . .	328,183	322,474	301,723
Pork . . . . .	443,437	438,060	411,712
Lamb & Mutton . .	11,870	9,210	8,967
<b>Total in Storage</b>			
Apples, Fresh . . .	5,914,322	6,165,252	5,477,452
Butter . . . . .	28,698	64,449	27,032
Cheese, Natural . .	494,469	621,013	597,978
American . . . .	388,529	458,569	455,014
Swiss . . . . .	11,911	9,372	9,145
Other Natural . . .	94,029	153,072	133,819